

## STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-31 are pending.

## REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 1-31 are pending herein.

The specification is amended to include the previously unknown serial numbers and filing dates of two patent applications cited by the applicant as disclosing examples of a more flexible reconfigurable optical switch.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the change made to the specification by this preliminary amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

## CONCLUSION

Applicant submits Claims 1-31 are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

## FEES

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



Stuart H. Mayer

Registration No. 35,277

Attorney for Applicant  
Mayer Fortkort & Williams PC  
251 North Avenue West, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Westfield, NJ 07090  
(908) 518-7700 Tel.  
(908) 518-7795 Fax

**Version with markings to show changes made**

**In the specification:**

Paragraph 0019:

[0019] The physical layer device corresponding to a router (which, as mentioned, is a network or IP level device) is an optical switch. In a WDM system, an optical switch allows different wavelength channels to be directed along different paths in the network. Optical switches may be fixed wavelength-dependent elements in which a given wavelength is always routed along a given path. More flexible optical switches are reconfigurable elements that can dynamically change the path along which a given wavelength is routed. Examples of a fixed optical switch include Add/Drop Multiplexers (OADM) and Optical Cross-Connects (OXC) such as disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,504,827, 5,612,805, and 5,959,749, while general OXC switching architecture is reviewed by E. Murphy in chapter 10 of Optical Fiber Telecommunications IIIB, edited by T. Koch and I. Kaminow, for example. [An example] Examples of a more flexible reconfigurable optical switch [is] are disclosed in U.S. Application Serial No. [[PH01-00-01]] 09/571,833, filed May 16, 2000, and U.S. Application Serial No. 09/691,812, filed October 19, 2000.